

The Manchester Journal.

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WHO ARE RESPONSIBLE.

The recent appalling railroad and steamboat accidents, by which more than two hundred lives have been sacrificed; and more than twice that number have been wounded, some of them maimed for life, have awakened in the minds of the people of the whole country and especially the traveling public a feeling that a radical reform is needed in our system of traveling by rail and steam.

In the case of steamboats, avarice prompts the owners to run the boat as long as possible without expending money in repairs or the purchase of new boilers or machinery, and also to employ a cheap help as possible. To check this tendency government has provided that the boilers of all passenger boats shall be inspected and tested at regular periods by an officer appointed for that purpose, and that no boat be allowed to carry passengers without a proper certificate from such officer.

This work of inspection is not always carefully done and sometimes the officer is not properly qualified for the position, and occasionally accidents happen by reason of the carelessness of engineers when the boiler would otherwise have been sufficient.

We are glad to notice that the coroner's jury in the case of the Westfield disaster have returned a verdict according to the facts. It declares that the Westfield's boiler was defective in original construction, worn out by use and invited the catastrophe with which it met; that Jacob H. Vanderbilt, president of the Staten Island railroad company, John H. Matthews, U. S. Inspector, James H. Braisted, superintendent of the Staten Island railroad company, and Henry Robinson, the engineer of the boat, are responsible for the use of said defective boiler and the consequences of its use, and shall be held accountable for the deaths of the aforesaid persons. This righteous verdict is to be followed by the immediate arrest of the parties whom the jury have found responsible for the disaster and there really seems some prospect that justice will be meted out to them.

In the case of railroads the difficulty is still more complicated, and, considering the reckless manner in which most roads are run, it is wonderful that no more accidents occur. There are no flagmen stationed at crossings, and at the depots in large places there is a perfect rush and scramble until the moment the trains start, and on special occasions the rush is increased tenfold.

The trouble is not altogether with railroad officials but can be found in the hurry and rush of the American people, many of whom would prefer to risk their necks rather than lose five minutes. If one train waits half an hour at a station for a delinquent train there is nothing heard but cursing and grumbling at the railroad officials for the delay, and this cursing and grumbling continues until a train starts on the time of another train, an accident occurs and the American people hold up their hands in holy horror.

There is unquestionably a looseness in the present system of running railroads that will to more or less provoke accidents, but we can hardly hope to see a reform until there is a reform in the people themselves. They must get over their hurry or run the risk of the consequences. Were there two railroads between two important points one of which should run its trains fast enough to be really unsafe and the other reasonably slow the fast road would have three-fourths of the travel. Whenever the people get sobered down as they are in most countries in Europe trains will be run with more care and fewer accidents will occur.

THE NEXT GOVERNOR OF MASSACHUSETTS.

Who the next Governor of Massachusetts will be is by no means sure; but one thing is certain, that staid, sober old commonwealth is getting pretty thoroughly waked up on the subject and the contestants for the position of republican candidate are plenty as grasshoppers in August.

Ben Butler leads off with the declaration that he is bound to be a candidate and bound to be elected too, which is extremely doubtful. He spoke in Springfield and in Worcester recently, on both of which occasions he pitched into his enemies right and left and in front. His course, however, will not be likely to gain him many friends, and although he has considerable strength among the masses it is not very probable that he will secure the nomination.

Next to Butler comes Dr. Loring who has many supporters, mostly in the Essex district. Boston furnishes two men, Mr. Rice and Mr. Jewell, who have many supporters in the city, and what makes the matter still more interesting these supporters are bitterly opposed to each other. The western part of the state is also bringing forward a man, Mr. Washburn who is, perhaps, the best qualified for the position of any of those named.

Butler makes the most noise, and has come out for woman suffrage and for enforcing the liquor law which gives

him some supporters, but diminishes his chances to secure the election. Nearly all the papers are strongly opposed to him but their opposition is of such a nature that a man like Butler can make capital out of it. The canvas is very exciting and entirely sectional.

TAMMANY ARRIVED.

A very large meeting composed of the prominent men of the city without regard to party, was held at Cooper Institute on Monday evening, for the purpose of denouncing the corrupt management of the Tammany ring, and to devise some measures for reform in the city government. Ex-Mayor Wm. F. Havemeyer was elected President of the meeting.

The meeting has been contemplated for several weeks and from the careful examinations that have been made it has been found that the city and county debt has more than doubled in the last two years and a half. Besides there is reason to believe there is a large floating debt not yet reported. The citizens demand that Wm. M. Tweed, R. B. Connolly and A. Oakley Hall, the principal leaders of the ring either purge themselves of the charges that have been made or quit the places they have dismoured, or be removed. Further, the people in the city, after their voice through this meeting, demand that the accounts be exhibited in full and in detail for their examination; they declare also that legal means should be taken to recover the stolen money; they appeal to the next legislature to repeal the present charter of the city, and give the people one which is approved by the best and wisest citizens. The meeting prospers and urges that good men of all parties shall unite in the effort to reform their local government, and shall make that the paramount issue in the next municipal election. To give practical effect to this proposition, the raising of a committee of seventy persons is recommended to direct the endeavors for safety and redemption.

The most encouraging feature of the meeting was the fact that prominent democrats took an active part, and were anxious to adopt measures for the needed reformation as the strongest republicans. Local government ought not to depend on party politics so much as on the certainty that good honest men fill all the important offices.

VILE ADVERTISING.

We take the following from the *Journal of Commerce*, one of the most respectable of the New York dailies. We should be glad to see other papers both in city and country adopt the same views in regard to this class of advertising.

"Some of the city papers, while denouncing the crimes of the abortionist Ascher, or Rosenzweig, (and he appears to have other classes by which he was known in the different murder cases under his control,) and demanding with much virtuous indignation the suppression of such infamies, print that man's advertisement in another part of the same issue. We do not see by what process of logic an honorable journalist can reconcile the direct catering for such a monster of society, who thrives on the slaughter of unborn babes, with the high sense of morality and decency which is exhibited in the editorial columns. We would carefully avoid making impudent remarks upon the conduct of our contemporaries. We recognize, as a general proposition, the right of every newspaper owner to carry on his business in his own way. But holding, as we do, that abortion is a most heinous crime, deserving in equity, although not receiving from law, the penalty of death, we cannot but regard a journalist who permits the appearance of the advertisements of its practitioners, in his sheet, as guilty of a very grave offense against public morals. To be a procreator for such an atrocious business would be the lowest depth of degradation. No man, with the least reputation to lose, would care to be seen distributing Rosenzweig's cards. But by printing them in his paper, knowing, as he does, the villainous purpose which they avow, he essentially plays the role of an aider and abettor to that creature's crimes."

The Journal of Commerce, we are happy to say, has never been "touter" or pimp for this or any other criminal or disreputable business. We have no difficulty in deciding what shall go into this paper at any price. Whatever advertisement bears upon its face, or carries lurking within its insidious lines, any proposition to corrupt mankind or womankind, that we unhesitatingly reject. We have been offered a thousand dollars a year to print only two lines of a card, written with all possible delicacy, but conveying an immoral suggestion to the intelligent reader. The applicant was informed that not those terms, nor any sum of money, whatever, could induce us to violate our inviolable rule; that, as far as our supervision extends, we would not permit the families into which this paper goes as a trusted guest, to be insulted and polluted by indecent and prurient advertisements, any more than we would allow the same bestiality in our editorial or reading columns. For the same reason—that is, because we feel bound, so far as is in our power, to protect our readers from the wolves and vermin of society—we will not accept that peculiar class of advertisements called "Personal," most of which are put forth for assignation and criminal purposes. We also decline to take adievements of lotteries and even of gift certificates, and of all other enterprises which apparently cover deceptive or demoralizing aims. Finding it possible to earn a living pandering to the vices and swindles of this great city, we do not see why other newspapers that are fit to live could not also eke out an existence by adopting our example. They may not make quite as many dollars as they now do, but what money they do earn will, at any rate, not burn in their pocket.

THE VERMONT MUTUAL.

From the forty-fourth annual report of the Vermont Mutual Fire Insurance Company we gather these facts, some of which, especially those in relation to hazardous risks, will surprise our readers. The Company issued last year 5,580 policies, insuring property to the amount of \$7,557,802, receiving premium notes amounting to \$796,471.29, making the capital of the Company at the present time \$5,287,156.25. The tables show that the amount at risk is \$27,913,884. In the first-class, consisting of dwellings, sheds, barns and contents, the losses and expenses for twenty-six years ending August 1, 1871, were \$767,156.29 and the receipts from that class were \$707,449.37. In other words the receipts from dwellings and farm property have thus far been \$69,256.89 less than their share of the losses and expenses. In the other four classes, denominated "hazardous," including stores, factories, taverns, etc., 3,153 policies are in force, covering \$7,187,368. The receipts for the twenty-six years ending August 1, 1871, from these four classes, were \$849,341.41, and the losses and expenses were \$738,329.68. The hazardous classes have thus more than paid for their share of losses, and for the deficit on the first class. No less than 291 losses were settled last year, amounting to \$104,790.82 and assessments amounting to three per cent were laid, raising \$169,652.69. The receipts of the year lack but a few dollars of \$140,000, and the expenses were \$12,358. The new office land and furniture, cost \$45,000.

The *Shawnee American* pays the following high compliment to the mineral well at Lansing:

"The Lansing mineral well will probably soon become more popular than either of the others. Its analysis shows it to be similar to the famous Empire Springs of Saratoga, and if supplied from an arctic fountain, the difference in taste would hardly be perceptible.

The advantages of location render it especially attractive at Lansing. The Eaton Rapids water has scarcely any perceptible taste, but it has produced good effects; while that at Spring Lake is very unpleasant to drink, possessing a large quantity of sulphate of soda, sodium, and calcium, and less carbonic acid than any of the others. There are upwards of 3,500 persons visiting the mineral springs of Michigan at this time, and there can be no doubt that at no distant day these waters will be a source of revenue to the State.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

Secretary Boutwell is the happiest man in the country. The \$200,000,000 of five per cent have all been taken, and the subscription book closed. His enemies are indignant.

Dr. Livingston has again been heard from. The British consul, at Zanzibar, Africa, reports that he is slowly making his way towards civilization again and the world will soon have an account of his return to Africa which has been *terra incognita*.

Senior Thurman of Ohio has taken the stump for the democrats, while his declaration that democrats, while interpolating no objection to the 13th amendment, are bitterly opposed as ever to the 14th and 15th, will not at all tend to harmony in the party ranks, nor better the fast dwindling chances of a democratic victory.

The Germans of N. Y. are down on the Tammany ring. The *Stadt Zeitung*, the leading German paper, stood by the ring until recently when outside pressure compelled them to change base. It begins to look as though the days of Tammany are to be few and full of trouble.

The recent explosion of steamboat boilers has led to issuing of orders from the treasury department directing the stringent execution of the laws regarding steamboat inspections; and the same department has issued orders to revenue officers to be more vigilant to prevent smuggling.

The existence of a terrible famine in Persia is again asserted, notwithstanding the denial of the Persian minister at London. It is now said that 27,000 deaths have taken place at Isfahan alone from starvation. The condition of the province of Mazanderan is still worse; their rice crop is a complete failure, and the plague, small-pox, and typhus fever and cholera prevail.

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Pittsburg chronicles a breach of promise suit wherein the too susceptible female plaintiff is aged 15 and the fascinating but false defendant 70.

The war dress of the Cossacks, with which our troops have recently become well aquainted, is of pure white muslin made into a sort of loose, flowing tunicle, which is really quite pretty and graceful.

They have, however, a species of armor of thick cotton wadding, quilted between layers of cloth, the outer of which is bright yellow. A high-peaked helmet of the same material makes a protection for the head.

STATE ITEMS.

Paymaster Hunt of the Central railroad has 6,000 names on his pay roll for the month of August.

Parties are washing for gold in Locust Creek in the town of Bethel, and find a little.

A 11 year old son of Edward Hammond of Reading, weighs 170 pounds; and a 2 year old son of Eleazer Hayward of Center Rutland, 111 pounds.

Several of the inhabitants of Barnard have clubbed together and sent West for a car load of 500 bushels of corn to make up for a short crop of hay.

Mrs. Nancy Harris of Halifax, has in her possession a copy of the New Testament printed in London in 1611—254 years ago, and three years previous to the landing of the Pilgrims.

Robert Ashton of Sheldon, while driving in Newport, the other day, was overtaken by a whirlwind, which lifted him bodily from his wagon and set him down unhurt in a yard near by.

The murder trial which has been in progress at Ludlow for the last three weeks has at last closed, and resulted in holding one of the organ grinders, named Francisco Crebion, for trial at the county court in December. The general opinion is that he will then go clear.

The Messrs. Russell have decided to open the old and unfinished canal at Bellows Falls begun in 1856. To do this, they have to blast many feet through solid rock. This will make one of the best water-power in New England.

In the last week or two, fishermen have caught several strings of fine black bass in the river at Bellows Falls, for the first time. It is probable that they have sprung from young bass put in the river below, a few years since, by the New England fish commissioners.

A gentleman in Essex, called on a shoe dealer a few years since, and purchased a pair of shoes for his boy. The shoe dealer took the shoes for the purpose of rasping off the pegs inside, when the purchaser objected—"because," says he, "if the pegs are cut off, the boy will run all over town, and the shoes won't last him three weeks."

A man named Powers was fatally wounded at Salem, a few days since, in a struggle which glanced from a tree he was tailing, striking him in the neck and severing his windpipe and jugular vein. Raising his hand to his chest, he exclaimed: I am a dead man, but I want to see my wife and child before I die, but after running a few rods, dropped to the ground from loss of blood, and almost instantly expired.

It is said that Helmhold loves whiskey even better than Buoch, and that he has become crazed by it. At any rate John F. Heury, the successful and sober-minded Vermont boy, has been appointed receiver of his immense business, and this places the latter in the estimation of all, where he has for more than a year stood as a master of fact, in the position of the leading druggist of the world.

PERSONAL.

General Sherman has left Long Branch for Washington.

Miss Louise Kellogg is reported to be organizing a concert company to travel through the United States.

Professor Agassiz, in company with several scientific gentlemen, intends visiting the Pacific coast this fall for the purpose of making extended scientific investigation.

Mark Twain has purchased a house and gone to Hartford permanently to reside.

Du Chaillu is coming back next winter to write about his discovery of Finland, Lapland and Russia.

Horace Greeley is announced for another lecture tour through the far West.

E. J. Phelps and family of Burlington are at Saratoga.

SUMMER RESORT NOTES.

The Congress Hall dining-room, at Saratoga, contains sixty tables, seating seven hundred and twenty persons.

Some of the rich residents of Saratoga are talking of buying out Morrissey's Club Room, in the interest of Morals, and dedicating the building to a Free Library, in the interest of Mind!

A letter from a fashionable summer resort says a young man is scarcely considered eligible unless he has lost his hair—this being received as almost indisputable evidence that he is always moved in the best society.

The estimated population of Newport in summer is 20,000. In winter it shrinks to half that amount.

By a brilliant arrangement at a down-east watering place, whether all the guests are conveyed by steamer, the rate of postage between this country and Europe will be reduced after the 1st of October next.

Seven survivors of a party of Italian banditti have just been released from prison after an incarceration of nearly seven years.

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Good Carriage Road to the Door.

Price \$1.00 per Bottle.

WEERS & POTTER, General Agents,

19 Washington Street,

MILTON AUSTIN, Proprietor.

BOSTON, MASS.

Montgomery

1871.

FAT CATTLE FOR SALE.